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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, ES

SUBJECT: ARRESTS OF MNR MEMBERS GASTEAZORO AND CARCAMO

REF: SAN SALVADOR 5275

1. DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM CONGRESSMAN MICHAEL BARNES (D-MD) REQUESTING, ON URGENT BASIS, INFORMATION ON THE MAY 21 ARRESTS OF ANA MARIA GASTEAZORO AND ELEUTERO CARCAMO. TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT:

I HAVE HEARD THAT TWO MNR PARTY ACTIVISTS WERE ARRESTED IN EL-SALVADOR AND HAVE BEEN HELD SINCE THEN PENDING A MILITARY TRIAL. THEIR NAMES ARE ANA MARGARITA GASTEAZORO AND ELEUTERO DE JESUS CARCAMO.
MY INFORMATION IS THAT THESE TWO PEOPLE ARE DEEPLY COMMITTED TO DEMOCRACY. OBVIOUSLY, IF ACTIVISTS WITH PARTIES ON THE LEFT CAN BE PICKED UP AND TRIED FOR THEIR PARTY ACTIVITIES, NEXT YEAR'S SCHEDULED ELECTIONS WILL BEA MOCKERY.

I AM UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE TO INTERVENE ON BEHALF OF THESE PEOPLE. IN ORDER TO JUDGE WHETHER OR NOT I SHOULD DO SO, I WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ON AN URGENT BASIS ANY INFORMATION THE DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE ON THIS CASE.

END TEXT.

2. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO APPROACH GOES AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL AND, NOTING CONGRESSMAN BARNES' INTEREST IN THESE CASES, REQUEST INFORMATION ON CURRENT STATUS AND REASONS FOR ARRESTS OF GASTEAZORO AND CARCAMO. CLARK

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